

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SUZUKI et al.

Attorney Docket No: 108075-00054

Application No. 09/816,133

Group Art Unit: 2816

Filed: March 26, 2001

Examiner: A. Q. Tra

For: LEVEL SHIFT CIRCUIT AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT with filing of RCE**

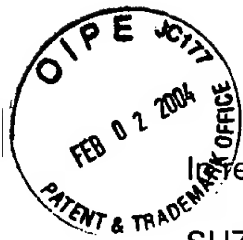
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

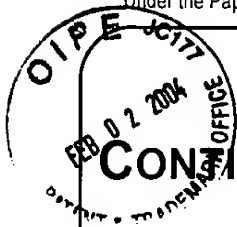
February 2, 2004

Sir:

Prior to further examination of the present application pursuant to the attached RCE and in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2003, the time period for responding being extended for one month from January 1, 2004 to February 1, 2004 (this amendment being filed on Monday, February 2, 2004, February 1, 2004 being a Sunday) by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/816,133
Filing Date	March 26, 2001
First Named Inventor	SUZUKI et al.
Group Art Unit	2816
Examiner Name	A.Q. Tra
Attorney Docket Number	108075-00054

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisions Application Practice, Fine Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply (Preliminary)
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Petition for an Extension of Time

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, fee deficiency or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 01-2300
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$880.00 (\$770.00 RCE fee) + (110.00 Extension of Time 1 mo.+)

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## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Lynne D. Anderson	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	46,412
Signature	<i>Lynne D. Anderson</i>	Date	2-2-04

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.